THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 25TH NOVEMBER.

THE Nizam's Government have just founded Scholarships amounting in all to Rs. 5,000 for distribution among deserving Mahomedan students, whose means will not permit them to obtain higher education. They will be tenable all over India.

THE *Pioneer* is of opinion that no Province in India can show such a high scale of taxation upon intoxicating liquors as the Punjab, where the rate is practically one rupee upon every bottle sold. "It is not surprising to learn," says our contemporary, "that in the Punjab the working of this system, which is the most practical embodiment possible of the doctrine of maximum revenue with minimum consumption, has been attended with such difficulties that doubts have from time to time arisen as to whether it can be maintained. The ordinary Hindu cultivator of the Punjab—say of the Lahore, Amritsar or Jullundur district—has inherited a taste for strong drink which under Sikh rule could be indulged at a trifling cost; and it is clearly a task of no ordinary kind to induce him to respect our excise laws, and to accept the alternative of giving up the practice or obtaining his liquor from illicit sources. It is this fact that accounts for the rather stratling figures of the consumption as it stood ten years ago and as is now shown."

THE *Bombay Gazette* writes:—"The Mir of Khairpur is the sole surviving representative of the Talpur Mirs whose rule was put an end to by Sir Charles Napier. He governs in patriarchal style, and there is a primitive simplicity in the administration of the State which gives it a character apart from all the other territories under the Government of India. But the Mir has not pleased all his subjects, and recently a deputation of about four hundred of them waited upon the Collector of Shikarpur territory, complaining of the hardships and ill-treatment to which they are subjected by the Mir's officials. The Collector recommended the deputation to wait upon His Highness: but this they are unwilling to do, and a deputation to the Commissioner in Sind is now talked of. We hear that a good deal of discontent prevails in the Khairpur territory and that large numbers of the Mir's subjects have crossed over into British territory."

HIS Highness the Nizam will, it is said, confer several new titles at the Durbar which will be held on the occasion of his birthday next month. Amongst these will be the conferring of the Khillat of Peshkar and the hereditary title of Maharajah upon the young Rajah Kishen Pershad, grandson and heir of the late Peshkar.

To what depth can light penetrate water—how far does thel ight of day penetrate into the depths of the sea—that is the question which Monsieur H. Fol has been trying to answer by submerging photographic plates of gelatine-bromide at different depths of the Mediterranean during the past summer. The depth at which the sensitive plates showed any traces of light was found to vary with the altitude of the sun. Thus, on the 29th of March, when the height of the sun was 48 deg. at a point to the north of Corsica, the depth was nearly 400 metres, or 1,300ft; while in July, when the sun stood at 68 deg. the depth was about 1,500ft. It is probably below this depth that the self luminous fishes, which emit their own light, like the fire-flies of the air, abound.

THE Emperor of China is said to be very anxious to make a trip to the United States He is in constant communication with the Chinese Minister at Washington on the subject, and shows a good deal of impatience at the latter's advice. The Minister has written to the Emperor that there is to be an Exposition in 1892, and that he had better defer his trip until that time.

So, Burma will be in no way behind-hand to accord a fitting reciption to her Royal guest. In Mandalay subscriptions towards the Prince's reception amount to about Rs. 8,000, and the Government grants Rs. 2,000. A Committee has decided, by 39 to 24, that if the Government refuse to increase the grant, it is undesirable that the Prince should visit Mandalay.

TUESDAY, 23TH NOVEMBER.

THE reform of the Indian Marine is in all likelihood to occupy the attention of the authorities. The Viceroy of India is said to have not even an Indian Marine ship at his disposal in the time of war, and His Excellency cannot issue an order to any of H. M.'s ships in the East. There are only four troop-ships, and the guns for them are in store, but their crews are only temporary men. There are six torpedo boats, but without torpedoes and crews. "Not a very safe bulwark," remarks a contemporary, for "the richest country in the world."

REPORTS come to the effect that a sort of rising took place among the Kols of Chota Nagpore, who are reported to have burned down some Zeminari Cutcherries, and killed a number of persons. They are said to demand a remission of rents and the abolition of forced labour, which has been exacted from them by their Chiefs from time immemorial The Kols are an aboriginal race, scattered among the Chota Nagpore and Central Provinces hill, and number about a million souls.

IN a square inch of skin surface of the human body there are estimated to be about 1,000,000 minute pores, through which either the sensible or insensible perspiration is continually passing day and night. If there are about 1,000,000 pores in every square inch of the body surface, then there must be in the whole skin of a middle-sized person about 2,016,000,000 or two thousand and sixteen millions of these extremely small, winding tube-like communications between the atmosphere and the internal blood system.

IT is intended to hold a military exhibition in London early in 1890, the opening ceremony on the 1st of May being held before the Queen, the proceeds of which will be used for the establishment and maintenance of the Church of England soldiers' institutes at all military stations.

DURING Sir Edward Buck's visit on privilege leave to Cashmere, Colonel Nisbet, the Resident, took, as had been intended, the opportunity to hold conference of the Council at Srinagar with the view of discussing a programme for the resuscitation of the silk and wine industries of Cashmere. The first had already proved remunerative until the silkworms were swept away by the ravages of what has now been ascertained to have been pelrine. The industry was introduced some years ago by Babu Nilamber Mukerjee, the well-known Bengali official of Cashmere, and silk factories and rearing houses erected under his guidance are, though now falling into disrepair, scattered throughout various parts of the State. The Council has now determined that three of these buildings shall be put into proper order; that a limited quantity of fresh seed shall be procured from Europe and China; and that two of the existing silkworm staff who, notwithstanding the decay of the industry, are still retained on the official list, shall be instructed in the proper treatment of the looms before any attempt is made to re-establish the business as a cottage industry. The collapse in recent years of the shawl trade of Cashmere has made it essentially desirable to provide the people with some other means of livelihood.

THE *Madras Mail* thinks that the appointment of Major-General Sir George Greaves cannot fail to be approved of in Bombay. Sir George Greaves is well suited not only to remove what defects there are in the organisation of the Bombay Army, but also to make his voice heard if needful in defending any part of the system which to its opponents does not appear to be vindicable. Fifteen years ago the military qualifications of Sir George Greaves were well summed up in Sir Garnet Wolseley's despatches on the Ashanti Expedition. Of him it was said: "Colonel Greaves's great knowledge of the Army, his experience as Staff Officer, the zeal and ability he brings to bear on his work, mark him out as eminently qualified for the post he occupied. He has rendered the most valuable assistance." Sir George Greaves is a son of the late Captain George Greaves of the 60th Rifles, and was born in 1831. He is thus fifty-eight years of age. He saw his first war service during the Indian Mutiny at Peshawur. He has been in command of the Meerut Division since 1885.

WEDNESDAY, 27TH NOVEMBER.

THE Hyderabad Chloroform Commission has arrived at the conclusion, after many interesting experiments and the closest investigation, that chloroform, when properly administered, does not affect the heart. The publication of the Commission's proceedings will be awaited with the deepest interest by the Faculty in Europe.

THE following particulars of the programme of operations of the Anglo-Siamese Commission in the country lying to the south-east of Upper Burmah, which will commence next month and probably last until the early spring, are given by a contemporary: —"The question of settling the boundaries of Siam to the north is not likely to cause much trouble, except perhaps on the lower Salween near the Karenni frontier. The Red Karens were accused of having encroached upon Siamese territory, and this point will have to be cleared up. There are valuable forests along the river, and these the ex-Chief Sawlapaw seems to have exploited very freely. As the Commission moves eastward, it will pass through the country held entirely by Shan tribes, and on arrival at Kiang Tung, it may have to decide what the frontier of that State is in relation to Western China. One point of interest will be to learn how far the French have pushed northward in Tonkin, as but little has been heard of their movements there during the past two or three years. It is, however, believed that they have not made much progress, owing to the determined hostility of the Black Flags. Their dream of extending their territory right to the borders of Upper Burmah can now never be realised, as the Shan States have accepted British protection."

A frontier correspondent of the *Civil & Military Gazette* states that the Kafirs of the Kamtoke tribe who inhabit a large tract of country adjoining the territory of the Khan of Asmar, are peculiar in the performance of their funeral rites which are celebrated with great *eclat*. It is customary for them to carry their dead in a wooden box for miles round the place, the men following the bier in a procession, reciting the deceased's past deeds and singing in his praise, especially if the deceased had acquired a notoriety in killing the Muhammadans. The corpse is then brought back to the house, where it remains for three days, after which it is consigned to a cave dug-in the hill where it is not buried, but kept upon wooden shelves in order that the deceased's relatives may see the body when they like.

THE heavy rain of last week in the east Coast districts has done much damage in Orissa as well as in Ganjam. The paddy-fields have been flooded and the autumn and winter crops partially destroyed. Cholera has also increased and a period of scarcity and pestilence seems about to set in.

THE Southern Column of the Chin Expeditionary force began its march from Pokoko on the Irrawaddy to Gungaw on Sunday. The plan of operations is to march upon Hoka and to effect a junction there, if possible, with the force from the Chittagong side; then to occupy the principal village of the Tashon Chins, with or without opposition; and finally to return by a new route south-eastwards back to Gungaw. A mule-track will be made from the latter place to Hoka and a line of posts be established along it. The Survey officers with the force will also reconnoitre the country with a view to aligning the eastern section of the future grand trunk road between Burma and Eastern Bengal.

IT is reported from Peking that there is a feeling there of great uneasiness as to the stability of things in China. "The young Emperor and Empress are believed to be unlucky, as there has been nothing but disaster since their accession. There is no loyalty in China, in the true sense of the word, and there are great fears that troubles will arise from the general distress inevitable in this coming winter: and that, if there were any man of eminence who saw any advantage to be gained from raising a rebellion, it would go hard with the present dynasty. The misfortunes that have happened since the present Emperor's accession have revived the discontent that was felt at the irregularity of his succession, which found its expression at the time, as will be remembered in the suicide of one of the Censors."

THURSDAY, 28TH NOVEMBER.

According to reports from Berlin the announcement that Lord Salisbury has forwarded a vigorous protest against the declaration of a German protectorate over the East African coast line between Witu and Kismayu is incorrect. Communications are said to have passed between the London and Berlin Cabinets, but have been throughout of a frendly character. The British Government, it is added, does not dispute the right of Germany to declare a protectorate unless such a step is likely to interfere with the acquired rights of British subjects.

SIR HENRY JAMES' powerful summing up in the Parnell Commission has been continued during the past week. He has ably focussed the evidence against the Parnellite leaders, contending that even in 1880 they advocated a policy of separation, the destruction of landlordism and the boycotting of persons taking evicted farms. He asserted that the Land League throughout had shown an eagerness not to offend the Fenians, who were simply a wing of the Land League army. He then vigorously denied Sir Charles Russell's assertion that crime in Ireland was the result of distress in that country, and adduced copious statistics showing that agrarian crimes had steadily increased in number as the influence of the League extended. Sir Henry James went on to declare that Mr. Dillon persistently fanned the flame of lawlessness. He commented on Mr. Parnell's intimacy with the Fenians, and said he inferred from the speech b Mr. Parnell that the latter held that where there was not suitable organisation murder was neither unnecessary nor prejudicial. Referring to Mr. Davitt's admissions in regard to the use of the revolver against traitors Sir Henry James declared that Mr. Parnell's lieutenants belonged to a body which advocated assassination.

THE labour difficulties in the London docks and wharves still occasion considerable friction. The dock companies have virtually surrendered the contest expressing themselves willing to concede anything the men insist on. The companies have agreed to refuse work to blacklegs, offering hundreds of them four pounds per man to accept immediate dismissal. Most of the blacklegs are glad to join the union on the payment of five guineas. Isolated strikes have occurred in several docks and wharves. The gravest difficulty has arisen through the lightermen declining to accept Lord Brassey's award in its entirety. The docker's balance-sheet shows that the total subscriptions amounted to over £40,000, of which £21,000 have been expended for relief and £11,000 used to repay other Unions for the assistance they rendered to the strikers. There is therefore a balance in favour of the fund amounting to about £8,000.

THE Mohunt of Tirupati's case against the four prosecution witnesses who gave evidence against him is concluded. Nearly sixty witnesses were examined, and most of them proved the absence of the Mohunt from Tirupati Hill after 9 A.M., before placing the vessels under the flagstaff. The enquiry lasted ten days. The Magistrate, after hearing the counsel for defendants, dismissed all, as there was no evidence to justify their committal. An application, in the meanwhile, has been made by Mr. Nelson, barrister, to the High Court praying for the quashing of the Magistrate's commitment of the Mohunt of Tirpati on charges of criminal misappropriation and criminal breach of trust. The grounds urged were that the charge framed by the Magistrate is defective; and that there was no trust in the Mohunt of property so-called, and consequently no breach punishable by law. Mr. Powell, Government pleader, opposed the application which, after considerable discussion, was dismissed by the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Muthuswamy Iyer.

THE importation of umbrellas into this country is enormous, and last year there were no less than 2,621,745 valued at 24,39,712 Rs. imported into Calcutta alone. This however, was the largest quantity ever brought into the Hooghly in a single year, and the trade appears to have been somewhat overdone, for heavy orders led to accumulation of stocks and a consequent glut in the market. The whole of the business is practically with the United Kingdom, although small parcels are sent out from Austria, France, and Italy. A good many umbrellas also reach India from Chinese ports.

Now that leprosy is being so much discussed in various parts of the world it may not be uninteresting to cite a few of the chief causes set down in the old Hindu medical works regarding the origin of leprosy:—(1) sleeping during the day time; (2) eating when the appetite is not keen; (3) gluttony; (4) eating too much of new rice, curd, fish, salt, acids, treacle, and cakes; (5) drinking cold water when fatigued, or suffering from fear; (6) excessive physical exertion after meals: (7) exposing oneself for any long time to the sun after breakfast or noon meal; (8) drinking liquors.

FRIDAY, 29TH NOVEMBER.

THE *World* hears that the Queen will probably open Parliament in person, in compliance with Lord Salisbury's earnest wish. Of course nothing will be definitely settled for the next two months, but it is Her Majesty's intention, all being well, to preside at this function, which will most likely be fixed for a day in the first week of February, so that the Queen may come to Buckingham Palace for a couple of nights when on her way back to Windsor from Osborne.

THE *Bombay Gazette* states that it learns from London that the present intention of Lord Cross is to introduce, as early as conveninent next year, a Bill enlarging Legislative Councils. The Bill will be found to concern itself chiefly with Provincial Councils, giving them a substantial increase in the number of members, the right of interpellation and the power to discuss Provincial Budgets. It is asserted further that no attempt will be made to introduce an elective element.

THE following is an extract from the speech of Sir John Gorst, on the above subject:

"In conclusion, I wish to refer to one observation made by the member of Northamption, and concurred in by many subsequent speakers, and that is the desire that there should be some extension in the constitution and functions of the Provincial Councils. I do not know whether members are aware that at the last meeting of the Legislative Council of the Governor-General at Calcutta in the beginning of this year Lord Lansdowne stated that he was in favour of enlarging the number of Provincial Councils and giving them increased functions, including the right to question members of the Executive Government on public matters under certain restrictions and conditions including the right of inquiry on annual financial proposals. Lord Lansdowne also stated with accuracy that the Secretary of State generally concurred in that view; but I put it to the Committee—what chance has the Secretary of State of carrying any legislation which affects India through the House in the present state of parties? I can only say that I have advised my noble friend, the Secretary of State, that it is impossible in the present state of parties and the present temper in the House to attempt to carry any Indian legislation. I can only point to the unhappy little bill, the Council of India Bill. The fate of that Bill proves what I have said. It is useless to introduce legislation dealing with the constitution of the provincial Councils in India until the house is prepared to devote so much time as is necessary to pass it into law. I can conceive nothing more mischievous in the administration of the Government of India than that a proposal should be hung up session after session in this House with but a slight chance of passing into law, yet effective for disturbing the stability and conservatism of the Government of India."

A CONSTANTINOPLE paper reports the loss of the steamer *India* with 500 Moorish pilgrims for Mecca on board in the Ægean Sea. The vessel sank; three only survived. The *Statesman* says that the steamer referred to is probably either the screw steamer *India*, 2477 tons, owned by Henderson Brothers, or the S S *India*, 1551 tons, sailing from Hamburgh. The other steamers of the same name are the S. S. *India*, British India Company, 4065 tons, the S. S. *India*, 1331 tons, of the Italian Navigation Company, belonging to Genoa, an Ex B. I. boat, and two small screw steamers and a paddle steamer.

IT is stated that Lady Harris will be unable to accompany her husband when he comes out to take over his appointment as Governor of Bombay at the beginning of next hot weather, owing to the precarious state of her health.

MR. H. H. KING, the champion of the Uncovenanted Service, has arrived at Bombay; a public dinner was given him on the 28th instant by members of the service. A like compliment awaits him here in Calcutta.

THE *Home News* of November 8 writes:—"Lady Dufferin's Journals were issued at the beginning of the week, and are exciting great interest among all classes. They are delightful reading, and if their author were not one of the most popular and widely-loved of ladies already, would go far to make her so. It is at once a moving picture of almost daily Indian life, and a valuable contribution to contemporary history. It is what it purports to be—the Journal of the Viceregal life of the Marquis and Marchioness of Dufferin, beginning with the first running up of the Viceregal flag and the first firing of the salute of thirty one guns as they hove in sight off Aden on December 2, 1884, and ending with their "stepping down" from their high position on December 14, 1888. The book shows, we may say, that however important it may be to secure an excellent Viceroy, it is almost more important to make sure that he has a wife fitted for the Vicereine's duties. Lady Dufferin showed herself as ready to listen to children reciting broken English as she was capable of persiding at the inauguration of institutions for the alleviation of native suffering or of receiving great princes at huge durbars. Some of her comments on events will be read in India with keener interest even than in England."

SATURDAY, 30TH NOVEMBER.

THE Government of India in the Home Department have had under consideration the suggested release of a number of Burmese prisoners. While desirous of showing as much clemency as possible the Government do not consider it would be expedient to make any large indiscriminate release of prisoners, some of whom have been deeply implicated in dacoities and outrages. There may be some whose offences are less serious, and whose conduct in prison may have entitled them to consideration. The Officiating Chief Commissioner, Mr. MacDonnell, advises that Deputy Commissioners should revise the lists of prisoners, and make further recommendations for the release of prisoners or a reduction of sentences. Instructions are given to submit the list of names to be recommended for mitigation or release with as little delay as possible, and to compile them in the most liberal spirit compatible with the maintenance of order in each district.

THE *Bombay Gazette* thus writes about the Governor-elect of Bombay:—"The next Governor of Bombay is to be, not Mr. Raikes, nor Sir John Gorst, but Lord Harris. It is a long time since the approaching vacancy of a desirable post has created such a list of likely men as have been named in connection with the succession to Lord Reay. But the postulant who has been chosen was the first to be mentioned, and his name has been before us on and off for more than a year without any special reason being alleged why he should not make as good a Governor of Bombay as any one else. It will not tell against him either amongst the race who play cricket or amongst the races who are learning to play it in this Presidency, that he is almost a celebrity amongst cricketers, so that with Lord Harris for Governor and Sir George Greaves, who believes very much in officers riding to hounds, for Commander-in-Chief, sport will be in the ascendant during the coming five years. When Lord Harris has undertaken serious work, he has done it well, and Mr. Stanhope has found him an excellent representative of the War Office in the House of Lords. He is looked upon as one of the most painstaking of the Under-Secretaries in the present administration. He has a three-fold connection with India. He himself was Under-Secretary for India during Lord Salisbury's brief-administration in 1885; his father was Governor of Madras from 1854 to 1859; and his great-grand father Commander-in-chief at the battle of Seringapatam. These are appropriate antecedents for a Governer of Bombay, and he has in addition the recommendation of youth, for he is only thirty-eight."

A FRENCH physician, who has devoted much attention to the causes of typhoid fever, has started a theory that the infection is transmitted by the use of ice.

THE following particulars are given by an up-country paper of the plan proposed for reorganising the Cashmere State army:—It has been resolved to cut down the military expenditure to twelve lakhs per annum, and to arrange for the payment of the large arrears due to the men. The normal strength of the Cashmere army is 20,000 men, but of these only about half can be regarded as regular troops, the custom being to employ many of the sepoys in the collection of revenue and in other civil duties. They were not paid in cash, but received their food and an occasional suit of uniform. When not on duty they worked in the fields like ordinary cultivators, but they had to obey promptly any call to join their regiments. They were badly armed, and had received very little instruction in drill or musketry. This class will now be largely reduced, one reserve battalion alone being retained for executive civil work at a cost of half-a-lakh yearly. The selected regiments which are to share in the defence of the North-West Frontier are to be paid at rates similar to those which rule in other Punjab States, and service in these battalions should, therefore, become popular with the Cashmere soldier, who has hitherto been treated with but scant consideration by the so-called military authorities at Jammu."

THE average strength of the whole force of the British army is officially stated to be 211,105, made up of 7,322 officers, 682 warrant officers, 12,820 sergeants and farriers, 3,423 trumpeters, drummers, and buglers, and 186,858 rank and file. They are distributed in England and Wales 75,210, in Scotland 3,731, in Ireland 27,962, in the Colonies and Egypt 31,013, and in India 73,179. By nationality 150,048 are English, 16,838 are Scottish, 30,332 are Irish, 4,907 were born in India or the Colonies, and 136 are foreigners. By religious denomination 135,380 are Church of England, 15,703 are Presbyterians, 10,316 are Weslyans, other Protestants 1313, Roman Catholics 39,126, and the remainder are Jews, Hindoos, &c.

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THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

(SESSION 1889-90.)

LECTURE by Dr Mahendra Lal Sircar, on *Tuesday*, the *3rd December* at 7 P. M.

Subject: The Telephone and the Microphone. Magneto-Electric Machines.

PRACTICAL CLASS in Chemistry under Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Thursday*, the *5th December* at 4 P. M.

Subject: Acids Continued.

LECTURE by Babu Mahendra Nath Ray, M. A. on *Friday*, the *6th December* at 4 P. M.

Subject: Energy due to Position or Potential Energy.

LECTURE by Babu Ram Chandra Datta, F. C. S., on *Saturday*, the *7th December* at 4 P. M.

Subject: Phosphorus and its Compounds.

MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, M. D.,

November 30th, 1889. *Honorary Secretary.*

The Hindoo Patriot

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1889.

THE VICEROY'S RETURN.

ON his return to the Presidency last Saturday after an absence of exactly eight months Lord Lansdowne was cordially welcomed back by all classes of the community. The Calcutta season had of late been reduced to bare three months, the Viceroy coming back to the metropolis in the middle of December and leaving it again for the hills in the middle of March. The last season extended over four months as Lord Lansdowne did not start for Simla until the beginning of April. And we have every reason to hope that his Lordship's stay amongst us this season will not be shorter. We think the new Viceroy acted wisely in making his first autumn tour along the North-Western Frontier of the Empire. His Excellency has seen the whole of this frontier extending from Peshawar to New Chaman and carefully examined with his own eyes the costly works which have been and are being executed with the object of strengthening its defences. He has looked into the Khyber Pass, the Gomul Pass and the Bolan Pass and inspected minutely the defence works at Quetta and Chaman. In replying to the address of welcome presented to him at Quetta, Lord Lansdowne said:—"Gentlemen, I notice with pleasure that you interpret my presence here at an early period of my term of office as an indication of the interest which I take in your city and this part of the frontier. I felt sure that the opportunity which has thus fallen to me of observing for myself what has already been achieved and what yet remains to be effected will be of the utmost value to me" The accuracy of this observation will be questioned by few sensible persons. The Viceroy held a Durbar at Quetta at which the Khan of Khelat, the Jam of Lus Beyla, and the chiefs and Sirdars of the Khelat State were presented. Addressing the assembled Chiefs and Sirdars, Lord Lansdowne briefly referred to the political events which have taken place since the occupation of Quetta in 1876, and remarked that these events have borne testimony to the wisdom with which the new policy was conceived and carried out.

Some interesting defence operations were carried on in the neighbourhood of Quetta in the presence of the Viceroy. An attack was made on the Baleli forts about ten miles from Quetta, which guard the only two passes by which it is believed that an invading army could possibly enter India from this quarter. The hills facing these passes have been fortified at every point. The Viceroy and Commander-in Chief on arriving at Baleli inspected the hill forts and afterwards reviewed the operations from the rear of the attacking troops. The attack proceeded from an army advancing from Kandahar which crossed the Khojak Amrun Range and forced the western month of the Ghuzabund Pass. The defence operations we are told were carried out with great precision and pronounced successful. As we are no military experts our opinions on such questions are quite worthless. But we cannot forget that the new departure to which the Viceroy alluded in his Durbar speech at Quetta has been strongly condemned by one of the highest living authorities. Now that a vast amount of money has been and is being spent on the construction of special defence works in the Peshin Valley, it is most desirable that the policy of advancing from our own frontier to meet the Russian menace should be carefully reconsidered in view of the doubts which Colonel Maurice has expressed on its wisdom. The gallant Colonel, who is regarded by no less an authority than Lord Wolseley as the greatest military writer in England, in his work entitled *Balance of Power*, points out that, so far as fighting on the actual Indian frontier is concerned, the further we can fight Russia away from her base, and therefore the nearer to the Indian frontier, the stronger we are. Colonel Maurice holds that we cannot safely advance upon Herat and observes:—"Undoubtedly if the Afghans were an united people, who could be trusted to adhere religiously to contracts made by a central Power, an advance upon Herat would be a question of their friendship or hostility; but that is just the element upon which we cannot count. The Afghans are, in fact, a congeries of fierce tribes who, no matter what bargains we had made with them beforehand, would be apt to break out on our rear, upon the first check we received in our front. Therefore, advance far beyond the Indian frontier, becomes for us most dangerous. Our position there is strongest, when it is strictly defensive. But all the world over, human nature is human nature, and the clearest military vision may be obscured by the temptations of a brilliant campaign. The matter may be plausibly put. We are all agreed that Russia must be stopped from advancing upon Herat. Why should not the campaign to achieve that end be carried out from India itself? It is not difficult to guess why some of the highest authorities, whose names we know, should be tempted against their better judgment, to persuade themselves of the wisdom of a course which would for England be very dangerous. If the questions as to the proper course to be pursued by another country and another army under analogous circumstances, could be submitted to their unbiased judgment, we have no doubt at all as to the value of their military opinions. The analogies of military history are now sufficiently numerous; and we say unhesitatingly that they preach—Strike by all means. Do not wait to be struck, when you know that your enemy is only waiting for the moment, which will be the best for them to strike you; but do not strike him at the point where he is strongest and you will be weakest." These remarks embody an emphatic condemnation of the policy the wisdom of which, Lord Lansdowne would have us believe, is beyond question. Colonel Maurice takes up an unassailable position when he says that the Afghans could not be trusted to adhere to engagements entered into by their ruler. Experience has conclusively shown that the Amir may coquet with England or Russia but his unruly subjects will have their own way. It was for this reason that Lord Ripon wisely decided against entering into treaty engagements with Abdur Rahman. Our rulers look upon the Amir as their friend and ally; but at Rawalpindi Abdur Rahman in a manner told Lord Dufferin that he would rather submit to the loss of Penjdeh than allow English troops to enter his territory. The advocates of the "forward" frontier policy have no idea of the feelings of profound suspicion and mistrust with which the Afghans regard the English. If it is not safe to advance upon Herat to meet the Russian menace the occupation of Quetta and the vast expenditure on defence works in the Peshin Valley become altogether meaningless. On these works millions have been spent and are being still spent, and if Colonel Maurice is right, this money has been and is being literally thrown away. As the matter deeply concerns the interests of the tax-payer, we hope very earnestly that the views expressed by the Colonel will receive careful and attentive consideration at the hands of the military advisers to the Government of India.

The first year of the Viceroy is necessarily spent in learning his business. Lord Lansdowne has now passed through his novitiate, and we now expect his Lordship to begin work in right earnest. It is a great pity that the new Viceroy should, during his period of probation, have thought fit to carry through his Legislative Council some very important measures in the absence of the non-official members and away from the centres of public opinion. The passing of the Mamlatdars' Indemnity Bill could not probably have been postponed till the return of the Government of India to the metropolis, and as the Bill merely sought to give effect to the Secretary of State's decision on the subject it was sure to be carried through the Council in the shape in which it was originally introduced. But nothing could justify the enactment of the Cantonment Bill and the Official Secrets Bill at Simla in the absence of the non-official members. If the disposal of these measures had been delayed for a few months no great harm would have been done. And in the case of the Cantonment Bill it was most desirable that the rules required to be framed under the provisions of section 26 should have been drafted and published before the Bill itself was added to the statute-book. Both parts of the Bill as originally introduced in Council should have been dealt with together in Calcutta instead of the first part being hurried through at Simla. We hope very earnestly that the Leprosy Bill and the second part of the Cantonment Bill will not be disposed of in such indecent haste. The former measure is the result of a panic caused by the lamented death of Father Damien. It is based on the theory that leprosy is contagious; but as the highest authorities are not agreed on this important point, the matter requires further and more careful consideration. But by far the most important questions which will occupy the Viceroy's attention during his short stay in our midst are those which relate to the financial arrangements for the coming year and the reform of the Legislative Councils. Lord Cross, acting under the influence of Sir John Strachey who while in India was justly described as "the evil genius of the Government of India, has directed that the system of quinquennial Provincial Contracts should be so revised as to make it obligatory on the Local Governments to meet the constantly changing requirements of the Supreme Government; or in other words, that the latter should have the power to retrench at its will and pleasure the incomes enjoyed by the Provinces. In the Financial Statement made in March last it was announced that the questions raised by the Secretary of State had been reserved for future determination and that for the current year the Supreme Government would levy a contribution of 74 lakhs from the Local Governments. Bengal was required to pay ten lakhs. This payment, we have it on the authority of Sir Steuart Bayley, has unfavourably affected the financial position of this Province. Its cash balance has been reduced to the lowest possible limit and should it be again called upon to make a contribution in aid of the Imperial revenues, the matter will assume a serious aspect. If the new policy laid down by Lord Cross is carried out, the so-called decentralization system will become a huge farce. The existing financial difficulties of the Supreme Government will continue so long as exchange does not rise, Burma does not pay its way and the expenditure for defence works continues. As it will be long before these difficulties are removed, the financial position of the Empire should receive the most serious attention. It should be carefully borne in mind that the extreme limit in this country has been reached, and that nothing will be gained by transferring the odium of imposing fresh burdens upon the people from the Supreme to the Local Government. In his place in the Legislative Council Lord Lansdowne announced in March last that the Secretary of State had agreed to the proposal that the annual Budget should be discussed in Council whether it involved any legislation or not; and that he had also admitted the propriety of giving to members of the Viceregal Legislative Council, under proper safeguards, the right of adopting questions to the Government upon matters of public interest.

The Viceroy declared himself in favour of granting the right of interpellation and stated that the matter was engaging the attention of the Government of India. When the financial statement for the coming year is laid before the Council we hope that Lord Lansdowne will announce the final decision of the Government upon this most important question as well as the progress made in the direction of enlarging the Local Legislative Councils upon the lines recommended by Lord Dufferin.

LORD DUFFERIN ON INDIA.

WE reproduced in our last certain portions of Lord Dufferin's speech at the banquet given in his honour by the London Chamber of Commerce. The speech is regarded by the English Press as an excellent reply to Sir Lepel Griffin's strictures upon the feudatory chiefs of India. The late Viceroy has vindicated them, with one exception, from the charges made against them by the late Governor-General's Agent in Central India. Lord Dufferin in the course of his speech under notice, stated in plain and emphatic terms, "that, as a body, the present generation of the Princes of India will compare favourably both as regards their intelligences, their activity, and their desire to do their duty, even with the best run of the Sovereigns of Europe." His Lordship continued:—"It would, of course, be invidious for me to cite instances of individual names but were it not for that consideration, I could mention half-a-dozen young and promising rulers each one of whom is actuated by the most earnest desire to do his duty, and was equally distinguished by the purity and high moral character of his domestic life as by his industry, his intelligence, and his public spirit. Indeed, not only are we anxious and thankful to be able to transfer a considerable portion of the enormous burden of our administrative responsibilities upon the ruling Princes of India, but the whole tendency of the Indian Government is to decentralize as much as it can, and to interfere as little as possible either with the Native States or the Provincial Government in the management of their own affairs." This testimony to the general character and ability of the feudatory chiefs of India coming, as it does, from a distinguished and experienced statesman like Lord Dufferin, will carry very great weight with the British public. It should at once silence disappointed and vindictive men like Sir Lepel Griffin. The exception to which we have referred above is, of course, the Maharaja of Kashmir, who has had the misfortune to incur the displeasure of the late Viceroy. It is probably no disparagement to Lord Dufferin to say that the Russian scare of 1885 had thrown his Lordship's mind a little off its balance. The events that occurred in the spring of that year convinced him of the absolute necessity of putting the North-Western Frontier of the Empire in a thorough state of defence, and it was surely the misfortune of the Maharaja Pertap Singh that he was ruler of an important State in the frontier. The scheme framed by the military advisers of the Government of India provided for the establishment of a British cantonment in Kashmir. The Maharaja of that State did not readily fall in with the views of the Paramount Power in this matter and his misfortunes may be said to have commenced from that date. Ranbir Singh had predicted that when the Russians approached the borders of India his State would be placed in the position of an earthen vessel between two iron pots, and recent events have shown that he was not a false prophet. When the late Viceroy found that the Kashmir Durbar threw difficulties in the way of carrying his scheme for strengthening the defences of the Empire, he at once made up his mind to lower the status of the ruler of that State. Accordingly, as soon as Pertab Singh ascended the *guddi* on the death of his father in the summer of 1885 he was reduced to the position of the other protected Princes of India, and a Resident was posted at his court with full powers to interfere in the administration of this State. But for this step taken by the late Viceroy, Pertap Singh would have been able to put his house in order. Lord Dufferin said in his speech under notice that the misgovernment of Kashmir under Pertab Singh had reached a point when it was no longer possible for the Government of India to abstain from interference. We have shown, in noticing Babu Jogendra Chundra Bose's pamphlet entitled "Kashmir and its Prince" that Pertap Singh has had a fair trial. If the late Viceroy had not sent Mr. Plowden to Kashmir and insisted on keeping him there after the dismissal of Dewan Luchman Das, and if his Excellency had allowed the Maharaja to re-employ his able and trusted Minister Babu Nilambar Mookerjee, His Highness would have been able to effect the necessary reforms in the administration of his State. Lord Dufferin admits that the deposition of the Maharaja was the rational result of what happened during his own Viceroyalty. His Lordship, indeed, is mainly responsible for Pertab Singh's failure to put his house in order which from the day of his ascending the *guddi* he was particularly anxious to do.

In speaking of the Native Chiefs of India in general and of Maharaja Pertap Singh of Kashmir in particular, Lord Dufferin took occasion to declare most emphatically that the Foreign Office has no desire whatever to infringe the rights and curtail the powers enjoyed by Her Majesty's Indian feudatories over their own immediate subjects. His Lordship said:—"Now, my lords and gentlemen, let me assure you once for all that if there is one line of policy which would be utterly distasteful and abhorrent to the Government of India, and which would be completely foreign to all those principles by which its conduct is guided, it would be an attempt to minimise or belittle the personal prestige or to interfere with the regulated independence of the Princes of India. The tendency both of the wishes, instincts, and accepted traditions of the Government of India is entirely in the opposite direction, and I can assert without fear of contradiction, that at no moment of their history have the Princes of India had greater faith in good will, benevolence, and generosity of feeling of the Supreme Government than at the present moment." This statement of the policy of the Government of India in regard to the feudatory States is not unfortunately borne out by facts. And it is a matter for deep regret that some of the worst cases of interference with the Native States occurred during Lord Dufferin's Viceroyalty. Under the Cabinet system which Lord Canning introduced, the Viceroy himself holds charge of the Foreign Office and regulates its dealings with the feudatory Chiefs. The inevitable result of this arrangement is that every thing is practically left to the Foreign Secretary. Lord Dufferin's Foreign Secretary was a young and inexperienced officer who allowed the Residents to do whatever they liked and become the arbiters of the destinies of the feudatory Chiefs. We all know very well how Mr. Cordery conducted himself in Hyderabad and created the scandals which ultimately led to his retirement; how Sir Lepel Griffin had his own way in insulting and degrading the Begum of Bhopal and ultimately was given a certificate testifying to the excellent manner in which he had discharged his duties; how Mr. Plowden was left in Kashmir to hector and bully the Maharaja Pertap Singh; how Major Barr treated the Chandelin Maharani of Rewah; and how the poor young Maharaja Jhalrupatan was deprived of all powers on a report of a Political Agent whose displeasure he had had the misfortune to incur. All these events occurred during Lord Dufferin's Viceroyalty, and he utterly failed to repair the mischief done in those cases. As a matter of fact, the feudatory Chiefs are, under existing circumstances, entirely at the mercy of the Political Officers who represent the Paramount Power at their Courts. Their powers of interference are unlimited, and what is worse, their reports are taken for gospel truth by the Foreign Office. This lamentable state of things, we have no hesitation in saying, will continue so long as an independent tribunal is not established to enquire into and decide all disputes between the Foreign Office and the feudatory Chiefs of India.

Addressing a company which was mostly composed of merchants, Lord Dufferin naturally spoke of the value of India to England from a commercial point of view. His Lordship pointed out that India is the best customer which Great Britain has. Her trade with India is, indeed, much larger than her trade with any other country in the world except the United States, amounting to no less a sum than 64 millions pound sterling. British manufactures are excluded from even Canada and Australia by prohibitive duties; but for the benefit of the English mercantile community India has been made a free port. While England herself the great apostle of free trade derives a revenue of not less than 20 millions from taxing imported luxuries, the light duties which India used to levy upon Lancashire cotton goods which are consumed by the well-to-do classes in this country have been swept away and the "odious" Income-tax has been re-imposed to fill the gap thus caused. Lord Dufferin further said that England's trade with India, large as it is, would prove capable of indefinite expansion if the British investor could be induced to regard this country as a favourable field for independent railway enterprise. His Lordship observed:—"The Government of India undoubtedly has done and is doing every year a great deal in this direction both by itself entering upon the construction of important lines and by giving guarantee to private companies; but its action in both directions is necessarily limited, and it seems to me that the time has come when unassisted private enterprise should step in to supplement and perfect the artificial exertions of the Government." These sensible observations we commend to enthusiastic advocates of railway extension in this country. If English merchants wish to have more railways in India for the development of trade, they must come forward and undertake their construction at their own cost and on their own responsibility without Government guarantees.

THE PRINCE'S VISIT TO CALCUTTA.

ALTHOUGH the Indian tour of our Royal visitor has been officially announced to be *quasi*-private, and although repeated hints have been thrown out that as little display should be indulged in as possible wherever the Prince goes, public opinion seems to be pretty well pronounced that the occasion should be utilized to its fullest extent for demonstration of loyalty. In Puna and Madras, in Hydrabad and Mysore, in short everywhere the royal visitor has gone, all classes of the people have vied with each other in giving expression to the loyal feelings entertained towards the August Throne of Great Britain. The visit of their Royal Highnesses the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Connaught evoked similar feelings, and it is idle to try to officially stop their display when a future sovereign is in our midst. What the other Presidencies have done Bengal is in duty bound to do, if indeed it cannot do more, and it is satisfactory to notice that preparations are already being made for according the Prince a public welcome to the metropolis of British India. On Wednesday last the British Indian Association, which as the representative of wealth, culture and the landed aristocracy has justly taken the initiative in the matter, called a preliminary meeting at the Association rooms, which was as representative in its character as it was influentially attended. Leaders of all sections of the community, both European and native, responded to the call of the Association.

Maharaja Sir Jotendra Mohun Tagore K.C.S.I., who was called to the chair, explained the object of the meeting in a well conceived and neat little speech which we reproduce below:—

Gentlemen, I beg to offer you my best thanks for the honour which you have done me by asking me to take the chair on this important occasion. No doubt we are all aware of the object for which this meeting has been convened Now although it is said that the visit of His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor to this country is of a semi-private nature, yet, as subjects of Her Gracious Majesty we are bound to give him a cordial welcome befitting his high rank and position, and thus show our loyalty and allegiance to the Throne, which at a future period—a remote future, let us hope—will be graced by this Prince as our Sovereign and our King. To my countrymen, and especially to us, Hindoos, the visit of a Prince of the Royal blood has a special interest, for, according to the Hindoo notion, a sort of divinity attaches to

the person of a Prince, and our loyalty almost approaches a sentiment of sacred devotion. It behoves us, therefore, to give some practical demonstration of this feeling on an occasion like this. But instead of each section of the community initiating a separate and distinct movement, it would be, I think, by far the better course for us all to join together in doing honour to our Royal visitor; for, apart from the question of unity and cultivation of friendly feelings among the different sections so necessary for well-being of society, united action in the present case, as in most others, is likely to be crowned with greater success than any sectional movement (Applause.)

The Maharaja's allusion to "divinity hedging in a king," was a most fitting one, for our *Sastras* lay down: "*Mahati devata hyesha nararupena tisthati*" (the king indeed a great god existing in human shape). If unanimity is ever necessary or possible in a society constituted as ours, it is indeed to be expected on memorable occasions like the present, and it was well that the noble Chairman of Wednesday's meeting exhorted the promoters of the movement to aim at unanimity in giving expression to our feelings of loyalty.

In response to the call from the chair to move the first Resolution Sir Alexander Wilson, said:—

After the words which had fallen from the Chairman, he had very little left to say as to the spirit which had led them together that day. He was delighted to accept the invitation accorded him by the British Indian Association. He understood that it was a preliminary meeting, and in the resolution he was about to propose they would be called upon to sign a requisition to the Sheriff to call a public meeting at an early date at the Town Hall, at which steps would be taken to accord a hearty reception to His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor. He was glad to see that the British Indian Association had taken the initiative in the matter and also that the meeting was a representative one. He then proposed the following resolution:—"That this meeting is of opinion that a requisition might be made to the Sheriff to convene a public meeting at an early date to consider what steps might be taken to accord a public reception to His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor of Wales."

The motion was seconded by the Hon'ble Raja Durga Churn Law, C. I. E. The unanimity of the proceedings was about to be marred by Sir Henry Harrison, who quite forgot to make use of his proverbial tact on the occasion, and demonstrated how thoroughly unpopular he has become by his autocratic conduct. As a contemporary aptly observed Sir Henry wanted to turn the whole thing to one of his Municipal debates, and had a grievance because he could not have it all in his own way. Sir Henry said that he had no opposition to offer to the proposal to hold a public meeting, but he wished to point out that, at a meeting like the present, it is of the utmost importance to arrange beforehand what propositions were to be submitted to the public meeting. First, as to the President, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor should certainly be asked to preside. The next point was that, in a matter like this, there must be some arrangement beforehand for settling the preliminaries of the Town Hall meeting. He observed that the Committee it was intended to appoint was to be entirely non-official except so far as regarded the Judges of the High Court, and that either by accident or design, the Municipality was entirely left out. He should be very sorry if any attempt were made to keep that body out of the Committee, because this would amount to accusing them of want of loyalty. He had, therefore, to move "that the meeting resolve itself into a Committee to settle the date and other objects of the public meeting." How Sir Henry came to conclude that his *following* was going to be left out in the cold, is inconceivable to us for we are credibly informed that in the Committee that was to have been proposed if things took the turn that was originally intended, contained so many as fifteen Municipal representatives which is no insignificant proportion to the whole body of seventy-five certainly. Sir Alexander Wilson and a great many others who were present could not conceive the propriety of Sir Henry's proposal of the whole house going into Committee, and a debate was threatened on the proposition akin to one of the Municipal entertainments that we are so thoroughly accustomed to now-a-days. Luckily Sir Comer Petheram found a solution of the difficulty by pointing out in quite a judicial spirit that as a matter of fact there were no differences whatever. He said that the debaters were concerning themselves about matters on which there was no difference of opinion. Sir Henry Harrison's proposal, if acquiesced in, would not carry out their intentions, and, if Sir Sir A. Wilson's views were accepted, it was necessary to move another resolution. Those present represented a body of gentlemen brought together by invitation to initiate something. They had decided to ask the Sheriff to convene a public meeting, and to ask the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to preside. It would be for that meeting to decide what steps should be taken to welcome the Prince. It was equally clear that a meeting composed as this would be, would not be in a position to determine details of schemes. The only thing which the present meeting could do was to appoint a Committee to propose a certain scheme or schemes, which could be placed before the meeting. He would suggest that Sir Henry Harrison and Sir Alexander Wilson should withdraw their motions and accept the following as a substantive resolution:—"That this meeting proceed to elect a Committee to settle with the Lieutenant-Governor the date of the meeting, and to determine the proposals which are to be laid before the public meeting."

Sir Comer Petheram's resolution seconded by Babu Kunja Lal Banerjee, was put to the vote and carried unanimously. The following Committee was then formed:—

Maharaja Sir Jotendro Mohun Tagore, Sir Comer Petheram, Sir Alexander Wilson, Sir Herry Harrison, the Hon'ble D. Cruickshank, Prince Ferokh Shah, Prince Jehan Kader, the Hon'ble G Irving, Babus Surendra Nath Banerjee, Kallynath Mitter, Raja Peary Mohun Mukerjee, Raja Durga Churn Law, Babus Jodulal Mullick, and Juggernath Khannah, Mr. H. M. Rustomjee, Dr. Rash Behary Ghose, Maharaja Sir Narendro Krishna, Mr. Gubboy, Mr. Upton, Mr. R. D. Mehta, Mr. A. Acton, Mr. J. G. Apcar, with Mr. S. E. J. Clarke and Babu Rajkumar Sarvadhikari, Secretaries.

The public meeting at the Town Hall will be held, we understand, on Friday, at 4 P. M. The Committee met, on Saturday last, to settle the preliminaries. The movement promises to be a great success. Some people have already been enquiring as to whether illuminations and fireworks will be more brilliant than on the occasion of the visits of the other Princes. We trust that the Committee that will be appointed at the public meeting will be strong enough to put down such an idea. A sumptuous entertainment in purely native style, none of the Pulta water works business mind, will give the Prince an insight into our lives and modes of living and will be pleasing withal. That added to some permanent memorial of a practical kind, if there be a surplus left after defraying the cost of the entertainment, will be a more effective method of testifying our loyal feelings than if our illuminations could set the Hughly on fire.

BURMA EMIGRATION.

THE Burma emigration scheme is about to take a practical shape. It would be idle to expect that isolated settlers would care to risk their life—for property they have none to speak of—in the back districts of the newly acquired province, however tempting the terms offered might look from a distance. Sturdy as he is by nature the famine-stricken Behari, long enjoying the blessings of the Arms Act, is no very good match for the Burmese *dao*. United and organised action is a necessary ingredient of the successful operation of the scheme, and we are glad to note that such action is about to be taken. Rai Jai Prakash Lal, Bahadur, the able and energetic Dewan of His Highness the Maharaja of Dumraon is interesting himself in the matter and accompanied Mr. Finucane of the Agricultural Department in his recent Burmese tour. The Dewan Bahadur is convinced that there is field for an agricultural colony of Behar peasants from the congested districts, and he has taken a lease, on very favourable terms, of 15,000 acres of land, and he is negotiating with Government for another plot of 50,000 acres. The *Behar Herald* approves of the scheme and observes:—"Rai Jai PrakashLal, as manager of one of the largest estates in Behar, had necessarily to give a great deal of thought to the subject, and his experience had led him to place more and more reliance on emigration. It was, therefore, not to be expected that he would let the splendid opportunity offered in Burmah pass unimproved away. It is a grand experiment in which he is engaged, but we have confidence in his ability, and we make no doubt that the most gratifying results would be produced. Of course, we do not mean to say that fifteen or fifty thousand acres of land in Burma would support all the surplus population of Behar, but Rai Jai Prakash Lal's experiment, if successful, would induce other capitalists to embark in similar enterprises. Government are bound to give every assistance to the Dewan Saheb. We are, therefore, glad to hear that arrangements are in the course of progress between Government and the Steamer Company to carry emigrants from Behar as deck-passengers at Rs. 5 per head, the ordinary fare being Rs. 10, and although the Government have, at present, refused to make an unconditional permanent settlement of the land, the terms on which Rai Jai Prakash Lal has got his lease are not unfavourable, and are as good as a permanent settlement for at least one hundred years. We hope other large landholders of Behar will follow the example of Rai Jai Prakash Lal Bahadur, who deserves every credit and encouragement for his enterprise." The Government has had so 'bitter an experience' of permanent settlement that it will have none of it, in a newly acquired province. The question, however remains as to whether without prospects of permanent settlement Mr. Nolan's scheme will be attended with as complete success as it deserves. Every body may not have the resources of the Maharaja of Dumraon, and every Maharaja has not an adviser like Rai Jai Prakash Lal Bahadur, whose keen foresight may help in the adoption of a course that the terms offered would not naturally suggest. Other evils of emigration, of which Government must have had sufficient experience by this time, must be thoroughly guarded against.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES

THE Viceroy's tour came to an end on Wednesday, when His Excellency started for Calcutta, by special train. There were the usual halts for meals on the way, and his Excellency reached the Presidency on Saturday last, when a hearty welcome was accorded to him Although the hour of arrival, which was 8-30 a. m., was not quite suitable for any demonstrations people mustered strong along the Viceregal route, and there was a large gathering at the Government House. Both Lord and Lady Lansdowne looked in excellent health after the fatigue of the journey. We welcome his Excellency back in our midst and hope that now that the first year of his Viceregal experience is over, His Excellency will have greater touch and sympathy with the people than has been hitherto possible.

WE learn with great pleasure that the Burdwan adoption case is about to be settled, thanks to the good sense of the Maharani and her legal advisers. The Lahore Commission which formally assembled on Wednesday last has been adjourned in order to facilitate the amicable settlement. The settlement, if it is brought about, will be due to the good offices of Sir Steuart Bayley and Sir John Edgar and will be on the basis of the Maharani receiving thirteen lacs of rupees absolutely and in lieu of all her claims against the Burdwan estate.

IT is expected Mr. Gay, our popular Comptroller General, retires early next year after an active service of 25 years in the Financial Department. His retirement will be a great loss to the department. But it is satisfactory to learn that it will be made up for by Mr. Atkinson's taking up the appointment of which there is said to be every probability. Mr. Jacob of Bombay will take Mr. Atkinson's place as Accountant General of Bengal.

IT has been determined, we understand, to make the odious Income-tax a permanent tax of the country. A Government Resolution to this effect will shortly be issued. The tax-paying public must not now delude themselves with the false hope that the tax would be abolished, when the financial position of the country is improved. The odium of the measure adopted will naturally fall on Lord Lansdowne's Government.

MR. BRADLAUGH is much better now and embarked for India on Thursday last. He, however, looked weak and haggard in appearance, and was accommodated with a special upper deck cabin on the S. S. *Ballarat*. He was advised that it was impossible to exceed a week's stay in India. He will read before the Congress the draft of his Bill to make Legislative Councils more representative, which he intends to introduce into Parliament next session, and his medical advisers are said to have permitted him to make but one speech. We are sorry that Mr. Bradlaugh's health will not permit his making any extensive Indian tour. But we hope the sea voyage and the salubrious climate of Bombay will so far restore him as to allow his stay being lengthened a little longer than at present arranged. At all events the heartiest possible welcome should await the Champion of India and we have no doubt that it will be accorded wherever he goes in the country, the cause of which he has so warmly espoused. There is a proposal to send him addresses of welcome from all parts of the country, which will considerably strengthen his hands in the noble work he has undertaken. It will be a great advantage to the Congress to have his presence, particularly as the reconstruction of our Legislative Councils will be one of the principal items of discussion this year.

THE appeal in the *Dacca Prokash* libel case has been dismissed and the Editor has been sent back to Jail to serve out his month. The fine of 500 Rs. had already been remitted by the District Judge.

WE learn with great pleasure that the Government of Bengal have finally decided to abolish the whole of the outstills in the Burdwan and Presidency divisions in April next. The abolition of the sytem in other Districts is only a matter of time when we have sympathetic rulers like Sir Steuart Bayley at the head of affairs. The Rev. Mr. Evans, the great Champion of temperance in India, is now in our midst and lectured to a crowded audience on the subject on last Friday. He has also been lecturing in Howrah and Serampore.

WE have been requested to announce that the Rev. Mr. Evans will lecture on the subject of Indian *Abkari* and Temperance in the Bhowanipur Institution this evening at 6-30 P. M. Babu Mohini Mohun Roy M. A. B. L. will preside. The attendance of students and native gentlemen is cordially invited.

As anticipated very considerable damage has been done to the crops in Bengal by the late storm and continuous bad weather. In Burdwan the mustard and potatoes have been damaged, and the *amun* rice will suffer. In Bankura much damage has been done to the *nuan* and *amun* crops, and the rabi willalso be injured to a considerable extent. In Birbhum the rice crop, which was expected to be a bumper one, has been damaged. In Midnapur the chief loss is in the rice which had been cut and was lying on the ground, and in the Contai Sub-Division the lower lands have been submerged. Parts of Hughli have suffered, while in Howrah great loss will occur in the rice crop. The Presidency Division also has suffered.

ON His Royal Highness' way to Mysore Prince Victor halted at Seringapatam where he visited Tippu Sultan's and Hyder Ali's tombs and those of the British officers killed during the siege; He subsequently visited the mosque, the place where Tippu fell; the Sandal Koti, part of Tippu's palace; the temple of Sri Ragnathaswami; the dungeon in which Sir David Baird was incarcerated, and the old breach in the wall of Seringapatam. At the capital the Maharaja spared neither money nor pains to make the entertainments hearty and sumptuous; they consisted of a state dinner, illuminations, fireworks, and musical performances from which the Prince turned to sport which abounds in the territory. Accompanied by the Maharaja His Royal Highness went to the Elephant Kheddahs from where he returned to Mysore on Thursday.

A MEETING of the Committee of the Municipal Commissioners appointed to "prepare an Address to Prince Albert Victor on his arrival in Calcutta and to confer with other public bodies as to the most suitable reception to be given to his Royal Highness in Calcutta" was held on Saturday last at the Municipal Office. Representatives of the Trades Association and the National Chamber of Commerce attended the meeting. The Calcutta University, the Chamber of Commerce and the Mahomedan Society expressed their unwillingness to accept the invitation of the Municipality. It was also ascertained by the Chairman that the British Indian Association would not join the Municipal movement. Sir Henry Harrison in opening the meeting said the Municipality 'had best entirely fall in with what appears to be the public wish in the matter, and that the British Indian Association and the Chamber of Commerce should be allowed to take the lead in the movement." This is by far the wisest course which Sir Henry could follow, for whether he offered any opposition or not, the British Indian Association and the Chamber of Commerce would not have *allowed* him to take the lead. It was unanimously agreed at the meeting that the Corporation should confine itself to the presentation of an Address only, and as other public bodies are taking steps to give Prince Albert Victor a fitting reception, the Committee considered themselves *functus officio*.

THE following is the draft of the Address of Welcome that will be presented by the Corporation of Calcutta to Prince Albert Victor. We do not know whether we are "betraying a secret" in publishing it. The risk is, however, well worth taking, considering that this is a matter in which citizens as a body have common interest:—

May it Please Your Royal Highness,

We, the Corporation of Calcutta, most respectfully bid Your Royal Highness welcome to our City.

Scion of a monarchy, the most ancient in Europe, Heir to an Empire surpassing that of the Cæsars, how can we find words worthy to commemorate Your advent to the Metropolis of Her Majesty's Eastern possessions?

India, the classic land of the Mahabharata, the Kingdom of the illustrious Akbar, studded with the peerless monuments of her byegone glories, seems to us, who have the honour to represent her capital, a land so rich in its boundless plains, so unrivalled in its lofty mountains, so populous with its teeming millions, so engrossing in its new life and nascent interests, that we can hardly realise that it is but an appanage to the Crown of Her Majesty, on whose dominions it has been justly said that the sun never sets, and whose banner Your Royal Highness has seen floating proudly over every quarter of the habitable globe and countless isles of the ocean.

Yet glorious as is that Crown and world-wide as is the power behind it, it is at once the noblest and truest tribute we can pay it, that its mighty material force is over-shadowed by the love and reverence on which the throne reposes.

In no part of Her Empire have these guarantees for the stability of Her Majesty's Dynasty developed more rapidly than in Hindustan, especially since the ever memorable year when assuming the direct rule over us, Her Gracious Majesty addressed us those heartfelt and stirring words which are still ringing in our ears.

Loyalty to the person of the Sovereign is a plant that thrives in the fertile soil of India, Our Queen Empress Victoria's name is cherished and beloved in every household. In her the people of India realise their ideal of the Monarch, Wife, Mother and Widow.

Our one regret is that it has not been possible for Her in Her own Gracious Person to visit Her Indian Empire, but she is known to us through Her sons, and now also in the person of Your Royal Highness Her Grandson. Our two next Sovereigns will have seen with their own eyes the length and breadth of this noble continent, and we may venture to hope that their visits, which have undoubtedly knit the people of India more closely to the throne in willing allegiance, will have also won us a secure and prominent place in the affections of our future Rulers. Not in Calcutta alone, but throughout Hindustan, all its varied races and creeds unite in praying the Almighty Ruler of the Universe to preserve the lives of Your Royal Father and Yourself that You may in the fulness of time succeed to Your splendid inheritance, and also so to dispose and guide Your actions that You may transmit undimmed to those who follow after You the priceless heirloom of the honour, esteem and love of the grateful nations united under Your sway.

The traditional "Roman Hand," or to be more accurate "hands," is visible throughout, but not with much success that one can perceive. The whole thing will strike many as stale, flat and unprofitable in the extreme, for in trying to steer clear of Scylla the Municipality has well nigh found itself stranded on the Charybdis. Without being polemic, political allusions such as the Bombay Corporation indulged in without offence might have fittingly found place in the utterances of the Corporators, representing as they do the best products of the renovation of a truly noble institution of India, namely local Self-Government. To tell the Prince how we have fared under his Royal Grandmother's rule would neither have been amiss, nor would it have taken away from the rhetorical effects of this 'masterpiece' of *poetic* effusion. The preparation of the casket that is to contain the address has been entrusted to Messrs. Hamilton and Co., and the Address itself will be illumined by the well-known local artist, Mr. Browne. The container will probably make up for the defect of the contained.

THE Columbia Elite Roller Skating Rink at the Maidan—which has again, as will be seen from an advertisement elsewhere, been opened this season—is, we are glad to find, becoming very popular. We have been assured that the management will do all it can to enlist the sympathy of native gentlemen, by whom it is already largely patronised, by affording them every possible facility to learn how to skate and thereby enjoy pleasant exercise. Special care will be taken to see that native boys do not meet with any accidents when skating. One day in the week has been specially set apart for the benefit and use of native gentlemen and boys. We trust our fellow-citizens will largely patronise the Company. On Saturday last a grand children's fete was given at the Rink. It was a pretty effective scene, and the children greatly enjoyed the sport.

IT is officially announced that the provinces of Brazil are being rapidly organised and the Archbishop has blessed the new Republican Government. A Constituent Chamber will assemble when the principal reforms have been resolved upon.

GANJAM is verily doomed. Scarcely it had time to recover from the effects of dire famine followed by devastation of fire than is it visited by disastrous floods, the consequences of which it is yet impossible to foresee. The Berhampore correspondent of the *Madras Times* telegraphs:—"The fears I expressed have proved too true. The rivers have overflowed, and the country, as far as eye can reach, was on the 22nd under water, so Government must be prepared for very serious reports of the Ganjam crops. Over 14 inches of rain fell at Aska on the 19th, the wind all night having the force of a hurricane. At Aska the famine kitchen was overwhelmed, cries of distress being heard. The factory people manned a boat and rescued six persons, but at least three have perished. There is no news from any other quarter, as the country is still impassable." A telegram was received by the Madras Board of Revenue from the Collector of Ganjam reporting an abnormally heavy fall of rain and unprecedented destruction of trees. The roads have also suffered considerably; a number of bridges have been destroyed, and the country is completely flooded. It seems likely that the crops, which were a few weeks ago reported as in a most flourishing condition, will be partially destroyed. Fifteen thousand maunds of salt have been destroyed at one factory.

WE learnt with much concern that the Viceregal train was derailed in the Kundilani Gorge on the Bolan Railway on His Excellency's way to Lahore. Fortunately no more serious result than some little inconvenience and discomfort was experienced. The accident was most unfortunate, coming near the close of an otherwise pleasant and successful trip. Sibi was safely reached and on the following day, the special train was stopped for some hours at Bahawalpur, and the Viceroy and Lady Lansdowne, the Commander-in-Chief, and Lady Roberts, were the guests of the Maharaja at dinner. The road to the Palace was beautifully

illuminated, and after dinner there was a display of fireworks Lahore, as we have announced before, was reached on the next morning. The following was Lord Lansdowne's reply to the address of welcome presented by the Lahore Municipality:

He was glad to have this early opportunity of expressing the satisfaction it afforded him, after a somewhat protracted tour throughout the frontier districts of the province, to find himself at its capital. Their city, from its historical associations in the past and from the position it occupied in the centre of the political life of the Punjab, was entitled to the utmost respect by those concerned in the Government of India, and he rejoiced to receive from their lips such an emphatic testimony to their loyalty and attachment to the Crown. They were, he believed, amply justified in regarding the privileges which attached to citizenship of the British Empire as advantages of no ordinary kind, and he thought they were right in assigning a high place among these advantages to the blessings which accrued from the security of life and property. Holding these opinions, they would probably not complain of his having made it the object of his first autumn tour to obtain some knowledge of their frontier districts. He noticed with pleasure their reference to the presence in this country of the grandson of the Queen-Empress, and they had correctly interpreted the intentions of her Majesty and the Prince of Wales when they referred to Prince Victor's visit as an indication of the interest taken by them in the Indian Empire. He was glad to be able to intimate that the Prince would spend a few days at Lahore, when he would be the guest of the Lieutenant-Governor. They would, perhaps, permit him to say that he felt greatly better for having spent a few weeks in the invigorating air and fine climate of the Punjab frontier, nor was it in health alone that he hoped to have gained somewhat. The province was one the public affairs of which had played a conspicuous and important part in the history of the Indian Empire, and its rulers had been men of the highest reputation and ability. He felt now that the Viceroy had everything to gain by a closer acquaintance and contact with the Punjab, and his only regret was that he could not pay it a longer visit. He accepted their address with gratitude, and earnestly hoped that it might prove to be within his power to conduct the government of this country in a manner conducive to their welfare.

On Monday His Excellency performed the ceremony of opening the new College of the American Presbyterian Mission in Lahore. In the forenoon the Viceroy received visits from the Rajas of Kapurthala, Faridkot, Mandi, and Chamba. Lady Lansdowne laid the foundation stone of the new female medical boarding house. Since Lady Lansdowne has been in India she has done her best to carry on the noble work begun by Lady Dufferin, partly because Lady Dufferin earnestly entreated her to do so, and partly because she is convinced of the immense value of the work. Lady Lansdowne felt that the Dufferin Fund deserved the general support of the community, and she was delighted to find that in the Punjab that support was so liberally forthcoming.

THE execution of Tantia Bhill has been fixed for the 4th of December at Jubbulpore. According to a contemporary, "there seems not the least hope of a reprieve being granted, as the Judicial Commissioner of the Central Provinces in dismissing Tantia's appeal expressed the opinion that he was not a person with any special claim to mercy." Mr. Venning, Officiating Judicial Commissioner of the Central Provinces, delivered an elaborate judgment on Tantia's appeal of which the following is the concluding paragraph:—

"Under any circumstances, dacoity is one of the gravest of crimes. Even where no hurt is caused, a sentence of transportation for life is not ordinarily too severe on a leader of a gang of armed dacoits even on conviction for a first offence. In the present case, the crime was accompanied both with murder and incendiarism. I am, of course, precluded from taking into consideration the long career of lawlessness which is by common report attributed to the accused, and it would be most unjust to do so. I have endeavoured, in considering this case, to keep my mind clear of the unfavourable impressions arising from the acts which common rumour associated with his name. There is, however, one fact which may reasonably affect the sentence, which is most relevant and should be taken into consideration. It is that on the 8th instant I confirmed a sentence of transportation for life passed upon this same accused for another dacoity committed in 1887. That was a dacoity attended with circumstances of great barbarity, for at the time of committing it the accused deliberately cut off the nose of a woman whose son had incurred his enmity. It is clear then that the crime of which the accused has now been convicted was not an isolated act of an otherwise innocent career, and that he is not a person with any special claim to mercy. For these reasons, and after giving the most careful consideration to the case, I am of opinion that the sentence passed by the Sessions Judge should be confirmed, and it is confirmed accordingly."

Tantia, worn out by age and disease will quietly go to his rest; the Government that tried so long and uniformly failed to capture the heroic outlaw would have risen immensely in popular estimation if it extended mercy to him. What the Judicial Commissioner has not seen his way of doing the Viceroy will probably see. But this is hoping against hope though public opinion as pronounced in the Native and Anglo-Indian Press is decidedly in favour of mercy. The *Indian Daily News* says:—

There is no doubt that Tantia has pursued a lawless career for many years, and has been the cause of loss and suffering to many peaceful subjects, whom it is the Government's duty to protect. It is true also that, though he may not be proved to have killed any person with his own hand, he has been the means of causing bloodshed. On the other hand, the offences for which he has been condemned are of old date; he is a permaturely old and broken man whose career of outlawry and crime has brought its own punishment; and it is difficult to see that the country will be any the better for his neck being broken by the hangman's rope. It may be urged that an example is required to "encourage" other dacoits who continue to raid quiet villages and attack peaceful travellers in some parts of India, including those districts which were Tantia's special hunting-ground. But the nature of such encouragement to men of this description is perhaps more likely to prompt continued defiance of the law than submission. Native sentiment, so far as it may be gauged from articles in the Native papers, is as much disposed to pity as it is to condemn the captured outlaw; the stories that he plundered tyrants and oppressors and befriended the poor, whether true or not, are widely believed; and the Viceroy would probably perform a popular act of clemency if he commuted the sentence of death to transportation for life.

The *Statesman* says:—

We suspect strongly that close enquiry would shew that Tantia Bhil is one of the men who have been ruined by tens of thousands—by our own arbitrary and unjust proceedings. Can no one 'interview' him and get his confidence? The many stories that we have heard of his kindness to the poor and his severity (or cruelty) to the sowcar or malgoozar, lead us strongly to believe the man has been made an outlaw by our own sad mistakes. And so he is the avenger of such wrongs. Whether we are right or wrong, we wish much that close enquiry were made, in order that the public might be satisfied as to the true character of the man and his mission. We understand that an appeal for clemency against the capital sentence has already been made to the VICEROY, and it is noteworthy that representations in his behalf, which are said to be of an influential character, have come from natives of the district which suffered most from Tantia's lawlessness. The petition praying his Excellency to exercise the prerogative of mercy must now be in the hands of the Viceroy. A most unsatisfactory feature of the trial, as everyone must see, was the refusal of the authorities to allow the accused to be properly defended by counsel. Who can say how different might not have appeared the complexion of many of the crimes imputed to him, had had Tantia been represented at the trial by competent counsel. The defect is a most serious one, and to our own mind largely vitiates the whole trial. If in these circumstances the capital sentence be enforced, the impression will be confirmed which has taken hold of the native mind, that the Government is seeking to avenge upon the condemned man the failure of its own police during so many years to bring him to justice. But whether Tantia be guilty or not of the more serious charges brought against him, we think that in view of the widespread native sentiment in his favour, it would be a graceful act if the Viceroy were to take occasion of the presence of the Royal visitor in our midst, to exercise the QUEEN'S prerogative and commute the capital sentence into transportation for life, in the case of a man whose career, however lawless, we find it difficult to believe has been wholly bad or without a single redeeming feature of any kind.

Will Lord Lansdowne disregard this universal prayer for mercy?

Correspondence.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Bombay, November 27.

All speculation as to who is to be our next Governor is set at rest by the official announcement that Lord Harris is appointed to succeed Lord Reay. A long array of likely names was suggested for the high office, from Sir John Gorst and Lord Coventry to Lord Balfour of Burleigh, and Mr. Raikes. Lord Harris's name was, however, the first mentioned in this connection and his is also the last name mentioned as that of the actual appointee. As to his character and political reputation, we have heard nothing beyond the fact that he is an eminent cricketeer, that he went to Australia as the Captain of an eleven, that he was educated at Eton and Oxford where he took his B. A. degree, that his ancestor played an important part as Commander-in-Chief at the siege of Seringapatam, and that he was Under-Secretary of State for India when Lord Salisbury was at the head of the India Office. If his official career has so far disclosed nothing very brilliant, it is something to know that it has not been tarnished by any blemishes. In politics he is a conservative, but I hardly conceive this to be a drawback to his success as an administrator. If he is a good man of business and shows capacity for work, brings an openness of mind and looks at questions from the standpoint of a statesman more than from that of a bureaucrat, he will do eminently well for the wants and aspirations of the people of Western India. Of course he will have to serve for the first year or so an apprenticeship to the work before him before he is in a position to judge of questions for himself. A Civilian Governor would of course be differently situated, but then the drawback in his case would be that he would approach the consideration of important questions with class predilections or prejudices formed in earlier life which it would be difficult to set over when occupying the responsible post of a Governor. In the case of a Governor appointed to rule over a Presidency with which he was in no way connected before, there is this in his favour that his appointment is a guarantee for impartiality. This secured, there is another quality which the exacting demands of a progressive Presidency like that of Bombay render necessary in its chief ruler. It is that he must be a man possessing the most advanced European ideas in statesmanship. How far Lord Harris satisfies this test remains to be seen. The people of this Presidency as of other parts of India, are never hasty in forming their judgments of their future ruler. They will never say much in their favour or against him, but will allow ample time for his acts to tell their own tale. In thus suspending their judgment they are, I think, wise. It is only at the end of a five years' career that you are able to judge how far the rule of a Governor has proved a blessing or a curse to the people over whom he had exercised his sway. Even then it is possible to speak only of the acts and measures of his Government which have come to public notice; for a great deal of the work of a Governor, or for the matter of that, of a Governor-General is done in secret conclave. The Government of India, whether imperial or provincial, is a Government by pen. Three-fourths of the daily routine of work is done by secret minutes, of which the world knows nothing, except that portion of it which sees the light of day. The public, therefore, is hardly in a position to estimate at its true worth what is the real character of the service done by a Governor or a Governor-General. But the most remarkable feature of the Government of the day is that when at the expiration of five years, the head of the Government has mastered the details of it so well that he is able to form his own judgment upon the questions which come before him for decision, when he has not to lean upon the crutches given to him in the persons of Civilian colleagues, he has to give it up. This is much to be regretted, especially, when the Governor has shown himself to be a capable ruler.

This feeling of regret rises uppermost in the minds of those who have to contemplate the retirement of Lord Reay from the Government of Bombay. His Excellency arrived in Bombay with a high reputation for statesmanship, for enlightened sentiments, and active sympathy for the welfare of the people, and he will leave Bombay with a higher reputation for all these qualities. No doubt his special reputation consisted in being a great educationist, and bearing this reputation in mind, the educated public of this Presidency expected that while he would foster technical education in this country, he would not put up with any measures of retrenchment calculated to diminish the activity of Government in the promotion of higher education. A daily contemporary utterly misconceives the scope of Native public opinion in this Presidency, when he says that "educated native opinion regards this policy (placing technical education on a sound foundation) as retrograde, and there is a strong tendency to anathematise Lord Reay as the *fons et origo* of what is regarded as a degradation of learning a substitution of vulgar trade technicalities for Shakspeare and the Musical Glasses." The writer here does injustice to native public opinion on the subject of higher education. It is not the development of technical education which is found fault with, but

rather the curtailment of higher education by diverting the money granted to it in the direction of technical education that is objected to. If the grant towards higher education were kept up and technical education supported along with it, and *not at its expense*, educated native opinion would have nothing to object to it.

There seems every probability that Mr. Bradlaugh will leave for Bombay by P. & O. Coy's Steamer on the 28th of this month. He is ordered drives by his medical advisers. This has been the latest telegram and up to the moment of my writing this letter, nothing has occurred to indicate that he is not on the road to improvement. If he starts on the 28th November he may be expected in Bombay about the 15th December—a little earlier perhaps than a week before the work of the Congress regularly commences. It is curious to note the remarkable change in public opinion which has taken place about Mr. Bradlaugh. Some of his bitterest opponents have now come forward to acknowledge the thorough honesty and straightforwardness with which he has been doing his work, and have shown numerous kindnesses towards him during his illness. Christians and non-Christians have alike begun to appreciate him. His electors have offered to pay the cost of his visit to India. This offer he has declined to accept. I now see it stated that the Indian National Congress has made a similar offer. I cannot say how far the statement is true; but I should not be at all surprised if the offer is made. The London correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette* in his letter published this morning says that a Parliamentary colleague of Mr. Bradlaugh's, Mr. McWeen, M. P. for Central Edinburgh, on learning that Mr. Bradlaugh had been ordered a sea voyage to India, begged acceptance of a cheque for £200, towards his expenses; but Mr. Bradlaugh set his face against accepting it.

The same correspondent tells us that Sir William Wedderburn, Bart, the President-designate of the coming Congress, is to be entertained, previous to his departure for India, by Mr. Yule at the National Liberal Club, and that he presumes that Sir Richard Garth, late Chief Justice of Bengal, will be invited. There is no doubt that through the energetic exertions of Mr. Yule and other friends, the Congress programme is being better understood and better thought of. A dozen Yules, with the dogged English perseverance which characterises the ex-President of the National Congress will do more to make the Congress cause popular in England than it has hitherto been.

More interest is being manifested in this city in the work of the forthcoming Congress than was visible sometime back. The erection of the big Congress Pendal is proceeding apace. Provision has been made to accommodate 3,000 delegates and visitors from all parts of the country. The expected arrival of Mr. Bradlaugh will impart quite a new interest to the Congress proceedings. His draft bill for the reform and expansion of the Legislative Councils is now before the whole country. It was Mr. Hume's idea at first that this time the whole of the time and attention of the Congress should be devoted exclusively to threshing out the details of the Bill; but even Mr. Hume has found expedient not to urge the Congress to stick to one topic and one topic alone. The question arising out of the report of the Public Service Commission which was postponed at the Allahabad Congress cannot be shelved, now that the despatch of the Secretary of State for India has been published in this country. The problem connected with Indian Finance, again, is of too serious a nature to be shelved. But except imperial questions of great urgency, it would not be judicious to take up many topics for discussion. At all events, a great portion of the time of the Congress must be devoted to the discussion of Mr. Bradlaugh's draft bill.

The Hon'ble Mr. K. T. Telang, C. I. E., took his seat on the bench of our High Court with the Chief Justice on Monday last. Mr. Telang received a telegram from the Bombay Government on Saturday, asking him to take charge of the office and he made the usual declaration before the Chief Justice early Monday forenoon. Mr. W. E. Hart has reverted to his post as Chief Judge of the Court of Small Causes.

Bombay is threatened with a water-famine during the season of 1891. The executive of the Municipality have become suddenly awakened from their sleep. It has been found that the supply of water in the storage lake at Vehar has been diminishing at an average of 900 millions per annum. If the rainfall of 1890 was at its maximum, the Lake would fill, but if the next season's rainfall was an average one, there would be a possible water-famine in the season of 1891, and an absolute certainty of it in the hot months of 1892. A solemn written assurance to this effect having been put forth before the Standing Committee of the Municipal Corporation the Committee had no alternative but to call an urgent Meeting of the Corporation for the necessity of at once adopting the Pawai Scheme. Accordingly the Corporation met on Monday last to consider and sanction the project. The Corporation did not like in the face of a certificate so solemnly assuring that even with an average rainfall next year, the Vehar lake would not fill in and the members would incur the responsibility of all the horrors of a water-famine in so populus a city as Bombay. It was also felt that the scheme put forward as a remedial measure was got up in a hurry and not a week could be allowed for a calmer and more mature consideration. Time was a most important element in the consideration. The plan proposed is to fill the Vehar Lake with water by means of pumps capable of lifting 8 million gallons of water daily 100 feet high during 107 days of the rainy season. This would fill the Lake with 856 millions of gallons; but since 8 millions of gallons is the maximum economical capacity of the 32 inch main which fills the Bhandarwara Reservoir, 858 millions of gallons would be disposed of by supplying the city or by pumping into Vehar. The remaining 73 days of pumping—for the pumping can be carried on only during 180 days would draw 584 millions of gallons from a dam to be constructed to unpound the water. The cost of the masonry dam and pumping engines is estimated at 4½ lakhs of rupees, with another lakh for 550 acres of gathering ground. In the discussion which took place, the one point which struck the Corporation in this connection was, why were not the executive alive to the necessity of recommending some such scheme before? The Head of the Water Department was in possession of the rainfall statistics of Vehar not only from year to year, but from month to month, week to week, nay from day to day and yet it never suggested itself to him to bring some scheme, say, a twelve month ago. Formerly the draw-off from Vehar was by one main of 32 inch only; but three years ago a 24-inch main was added, which of course resulted in a larger quantity being drawn off from the Lake When this main was added it was clearly the duty of the Municipal Commissioner to have made some provision for filling the Vehar with a larger quantity of water. But this was not done. The executive was lulled into action by a belief that the Tansa Water would supply all the needs of the city. When, however, they saw that Tansa could not be relied upon to give water in the fair season of 1891, the authorities awoke to the awful calamity which was impending. The Corporation at last sanctioned the scheme proposed. But it is to be hoped that the remarks which fell from some of the most influential Members of the Corporation as to hot-haste in which the scheme was forced upon the body, and the necessity of care, forethought and diligence on the part of the authorities, would not be lost upon the executive.

As I write, a telegram in one of the daily papers of this morning announces that Mr. Bradlaugh is better and sails for Bombay in the *S. S. Ballarat* on Thursday next the 28th instant. It is to be hoped that the sea-voyage will benefit Mr. Bradlaugh so far as to set him up entirely before he reaches Bombay and that he will return to his native land fully renovated in political knowledge as well as in bodily strength.

DR DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION.—Allen G. Chattaway, Esq. District Medical Officer, Leominster, testifies, as follows, to the unparalleled efficacy of this celebrated Oil in the treatment of Consumption —'Having for some years extensively used Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil, both in public and private practice, I have no hesitation in stating that its effects are very far superior to those of any other Cod Liver Oil. Nearly four years since, two cases of confirmed Consumption were placed under my care. In both, the lungs were a mass of tubercular deposit and every possible sound to be heard in Phthisis was present. The sole remedy employed was Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil; and now the patients are strong and fat the diseased (abnormal) sounds nearly inaudible and in the one case (male), hunting, fishing and shooting are freely indulged in, the patient expressing himself quite capable of undergoing as much fatigue as any of his fellow-sportsmen Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar Harford & Co., 210, High Holborn, London.

SINCERE AND EARNEST WORDS.

THE fact that a man occupies the responsible position of a religious teacher entitles him to unquestioned respect and gives his words and endorsements a special power. The following voluntary statements are pretty strong evidence as to what the clergy think of Warner's "SAFE" Cure.

"I believe Warner's 'SAFE' Cure to be a very valuable medicine."—Rev. E. J. Gale, Gothic Villa, North Malvern.

"I owe my present health, and even my life, under Providence, to Warner's 'SAFE' Cure."—Rev. George Waterman, Berwyn Lodge, Broodstone, Wimborne.

"I have taken Warner's 'SAFE' Cure, and derived great benefit from it, after being under the care of three physicians, who failed to relieve me."—Rev. John Shepherd, Alford Street, Ripley, Derbyshire.

"By the use of Warner's 'SAFE' Cure two large kidney stones were removed, and I am now better than I have been for years."—Rev. C. G. Squirell, Stretton-under-Foss, Rugby.

"Warner's 'SAFE' Cure relievd me of a nervous affection, and from valvular disease of the heart from which I suffered for fourteen years."—Rev. Bailey J. Harker, Bolton

The remedy can be had of all Chemists and at the Bazzars, or of Ballantine & Co., Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras. Write Ballantine & Co. for 32-page illustrated pamphlet, which will be sent free, post paid.

A CARD.—AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY is announced in the *Paris Figaro*, of a valuable remedy for nervous debility, physical exhaustion, and kindred complaints. The discovery was made by a Missionary in old Mexico; it saved him from a miserable existence and an early grave. The Rev. Joseph Holmes, Bloomsbury Mansions, Bloomsbury Square, London, W. C., will send the prescription, free of charge, on receipt of a self addressed stamped envelope. Mention this paper. 10

Government Notification

Calcutta Gazette.—*27th November*, 1889.

GENERAL.—Mr. E. P. Chapman, who was appointed in 1888 to be a member of the Covenanted Civil Service, is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate and Collector in the Presidency Division, and is posted to the Sudder station of the district of the 24-Pergunnahs.

Baboo Nogendra Nath Gupta, Deputy Collector, is appointed to perform the functions of a Collector under the Public Demands Recovery Act VII (B.C.) of 1880, in the district of Rajshahye, vice Mr. E. F. Ainslie, transferred.

Baboo Atul Chandra Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Kurigram, Rungpore, is allowed leave for two months and thirteen days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Baboo Ganendra Nath Pal, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on excise work, Hooghly, is allowed leave for three months, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

The services of Baboo Shama Churn Mitter, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Satkhira, Khoolna, are placed at the disposal of the Financial Department of this Government for employment as Excise Deputy Collector, Hooghly.

Baboo Kader Nath Banerjee, Special Deputy Collector, in charge of the Khas Tehsil Office at Contai, Midnapore, is allowed leave for one week, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the leave granted to him under the order of the 17th September last.

Mr. C. H. Bompas, who has recently been appointed to be a member of the Covenanted Civil Service, is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate and Collector in the Burdwan Division, and is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Burdwan.

Mr. A. G. Chukerbutty, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Gya, is allowed leave for one month and four days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Dwarka Nath Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jessore, is allowed leave for two months and seven days, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Mr. E. B. Harris is appointed to act, until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and is posted to the Sudder station of the district of Mozufferpore.

JUDICIAL.—The undermentioned gentlemen are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates for the Independent Bench at the Sudder station of the district of Rajshahye, and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class :—

Baboo Gopalendra Narain Rai; Baboo Taron Krishna Bhoomick; Baboo Guru Gobind Saha; Baboo Haro Kumar Sarkar; Mr J. S. Andrews; Shah Zohurul Hassain; Baboo Taron Krishna Chowdhuri; Moulvie Mohamed Taher; Baboo Udoy Narain Bhaduri; Baboo Okhoy Coomar Bhaduri.

Mr. E. P. Chapman, Assistant Magistrate and Collector. 24-Pergunnahs, is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Baboo Anund Kumar Surbadhikari, Temporary Additional Subordinate Judge of Furreedpore, is appointed to be Temporary Additional Subordinate Judge of Dacca.

The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the resignation tendered by the undermentioned gentlemen of their appointment of Honorary Presidency Magistrates for the town of Calcutta :—

Moulvie Mahomed Yusof Khan Bahadoor; Mr. W. Craik; Mr J. E. Caithness W J Simmons; Mr. D. W. Madge; Baboo Sham Churn Law; Rai Prem Chand Bural Bahadoor.

Baboo Hurish Chandra Sen, Munsif of Burrisal, is vested with the powers of a Judge of a Court of Small Causes for the trial of suits cognizable by such a Court up to the value of Rs. 50 within the local limits of the Burrisal Munsifi.

The Lieutenant-Governor accepts the resignation tendered by Baboo Hara Chandra Chowdhury of his appointment of Honorary Magistrate of the Sherepore Bench, in the district of Mymensingh.

Mr. Gordon. Leith, Barrister-at-Law, is appointed to act as Secretary to the Board of Examiners for Pleadership and Mooktearship during the absence, on leave, of Mr. H. T Hyde, or until further orders.

Baboo Mohendro Nath Mitter, Small Cause Court Judge of Dacca and Munshigunge, is allowed leave for two months, under article 306 (b) of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 28th instant, or the date on which he may be relieved.

Baboo Anantaram Ghose, Munsif of Gya, is appointed to act as Small Cause Court Judge of Dacca and Munshigunge, during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Mohendro Nath Mitter, or until further orders.

Baboo Gopal Chundra Chatterjee, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Gya, to be ordinarily stationed at the Sudder station, during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Anantaram Ghose, or until further orders.

Baboo Priya Lal Pyne, B.L., is appointed to act as a Munsif in the district of Tirhoot, to be ordinarily stationed at Mozufferpore, during the absence, on deputation, of Baboo Jugul Kishore De, or until further orders, with effect from the date on which he joined his appointment.

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Vice-Chairman, District Board.
Bhagalpur.

District Board's Office, Bhagalpur
The 26th, November 1889. 198

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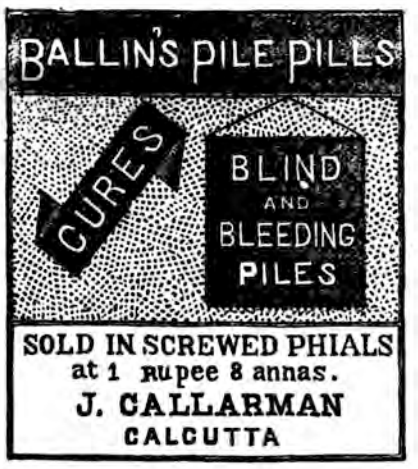

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FRANCIS, HARRISON HATHAWAY & CO.
CALCUTTA. 184.

The 9th Ordinary Monthly Meeting of the Commissioners of Calcutta under Act II (B. C.) of 1888, *will be held in the Town Hall, on Thursday next, the 5th December* 1889, *at* 4 P. M.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. To consider the draft Address to be presented to His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor as approved by the Committee appointed to draw up the same, and to confirm the other proceedings of the Committee.

2. To consider the Resolution passed by the General Committee at their Meeting held on the 2nd September 1889 to the effect that, under the present circumstances of the Municipality, it is not expedient to contribute any funds towards the support of the Public Library.

3. To accept the recommendation of the General Committee that the Chairman be re-elected to represent the Corporation on the Port Trust on the understanding that Sir Henry Harrison will resign whenever he ceases to be Chairman.

4. To confirm proceedings of the Complaints Committee at a Meeting held on the 25th September 1889. (Postponed from the Adjourned 8th Ordinary Monthly Meeting held on the 20th November.)

5. The Chairman to lay upon the table the report of the Auditors on the accounts of the Municipality for the year ended 31st March last for disposal under Section 76 Act II (B. C.) of 1888.

6. To confirm the proceedings of the General Committee at Meetings held on the 9th, 16th and 23rd November 1889.

7. To confirm the proceedings of the Suburban Improvement Committee at a Meeting held on the 19th November 1889.

8. To confirm the proceedings of the Complaint Committee at a Meeting held on the 13th November 1889.

9. To confirm the proceedings of the Loans Committee at Meetings held on the 22nd and 26th October.

10. Vital statistics for October 1889.

At the close of the Ordinary Meeting a Special Meeting of the Commissioners of Calcutta under Act II (B. C.) of 1888, will be held to consider the application from Messrs. George Henderson and Co., for a license for a jute godown at Baug Bazar in Galiffe Street.

JOHN COWIE,
29th Nov. 1889. *Secretary to the Corporation.*
No. 197.

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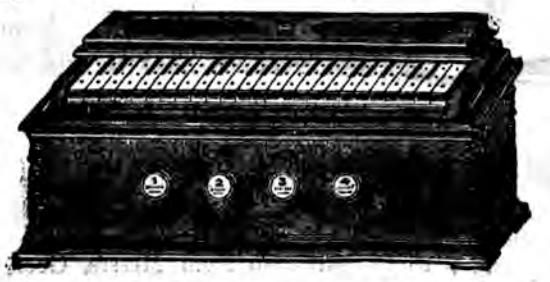

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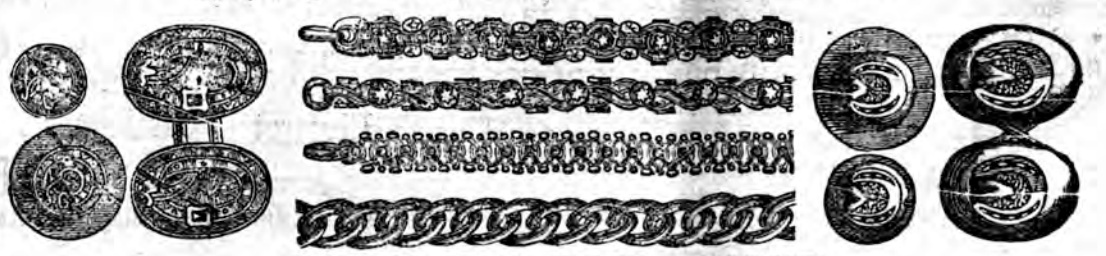

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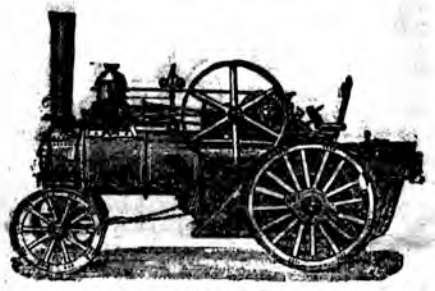

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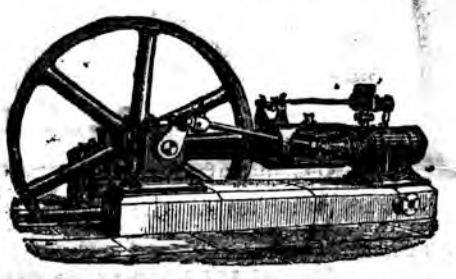

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